



TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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Rain Slowed Field Work Early Last Week

The State experienced scattered thunderstorms early last week hampering most field activities. As a result, harvest of corn for grain and silage continued to lag behind last year and the five-year average. Producers of late planted soybeans welcomed the rain, and conditions showed a slight improvement. The soybean crop continued to develop slightly behind normal, with some varieties of early planted beans nearing harvest. A few cotton producers started defoliating cotton late last week, lagging a full week behind the five-year average. Other activities, mostly limited to the end of the week, included tobacco topping and harvest, and cutting hay. Weekly rainfall amounts of over 2 inches were common in Middle and East Tennessee, while amounts in the West were mostly between 0.5 and 1.0 inch. There were 4 days considered suitable for field work last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus, while subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 7, 2003					CONDITION: On September 5, 2003					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2002	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Mature	79	65	89	84	Cotton	0	3	19	63	15
Corn - Harvest	16	11	40	40	Soybeans	0	2	14	58	26
Corn Silage - Harvest	73	62	90	82	Tobacco	3	5	30	50	12
Cotton - Bolls Opening	29	25	47	63	Pastures	0	2	15	63	20
Cotton - Defoliated	1	N/A	11	17						
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	13	7	18	18						
Tobacco - Topped	95	91	94	95						
Tobacco - Burley Harvested	53	44	53	60						
Tobacco - Air Cured Harvested	71	58	68	72						
Tobacco - Fire Cured Harvested	53	45	60	68						

CORN: Almost three-fourths of the corn silage acreage has been harvested with grain harvest almost one-fifth complete. Grain harvest was about a full week behind normal, due to late planting and moisture content continuing to be relatively high.

COTTON: The State’s early planted cotton is opening, but overall crop development remained behind normal. With last week’s rainfall, producers were basically at a standstill with applying defoliants. The crop continued to be rated in mostly good condition.

SOYBEANS: The recent rain helped soybeans fill pods and kept the crop in mostly good-to excellent condition. As of Sunday, 13 percent of the acreage was dropping leaves, slightly behind last year and the five-year average. Early harvest of group three beans has begun on a limited basis. Problems with insect and disease pressure were reported in some areas.

TOBACCO: Virtually all of the State’s tobacco has been topped and over half the crop is in barns. Steady harvest progress was made last week despite the weather. A few isolated fields were reported to have been damaged by wind and hail in East Tennessee. Disease pressure continued to be a problem in some areas, however, tobacco remained in fair-to-good condition statewide.

PASTURES & HAY: Farmers continued with their late summer hay cuttings, as weather permitted. Pasture conditions improved from the week earlier and were rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 09/07/03 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 09/07/03				Current Week	Rain	Current	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/07/03	Days	Since January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	92	58	76	+2	2.15	4	51.20	+14.96	2137	+39
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	56	72	+1	2.57	4	51.39	+22.08	1491	+44
Brownsville_TN	92	58	76	+0	1.20	4	41.42	+5.14	2303	+438
Chattanooga/Lov	90	63	78	+3	2.03	2	50.40	+13.15	2102	+106
Clarksville_Sew	91	57	74	+0	2.20	3	36.07	+0.94	2027	+148
Cookeville	91	56	74	+2	4.62	3	50.16	+10.32	1636	+454
Covington	88	57	73	-3	2.10	4	40.47	+5.16	2043	-97
Crossville_AP	85	56	72	+4	2.12	4	50.44	+11.25	1475	+134
Dickson_AG	87	48	69	-5	2.33	3	42.75	+5.33	1548	-411
Dover_1W	88	56	74	+1	2.83	3	42.36	+5.96	1851	+180
Dyersburg	90	59	74	-2	0.99	3	36.52	+1.85	2172	-100
Erwin_1W	87	56	73	+5	1.10	3	41.93	+6.25	1420	-301
Huntingdon_Wate	90	57	74	+0	2.42	3	41.05	+4.64	1967	+186
Jackson_AG	90	60	75	+0	1.82	4	37.69	+1.76	2095	+47
Kingston_AG	89	59	74	+3	2.70	4	50.24	+9.16	1687	+135
Knoxville_AP	90	61	76	+3	2.41	4	46.00	+12.36	1899	+166
Lewisburg	92	50	75	+2	1.70	3	48.12	+10.11	1770	+23
Lexington_TN	90	57	75	-1	3.29	3	43.00	+7.94	1951	+682
Linden	89	43	73	+1	3.37	2	47.60	+9.01	1737	-19
Martin	90	56	73	+0	2.63	4	43.25	+6.71	2002	+35
Mc_Minnville_Tn	91	58	75	+2	1.97	2	46.19	+8.93	1870	-303
Memphis_AG	92	58	75	-3	1.84	4	42.25	+6.69	2237	-295
Milan	90	54	74	+0	1.49	2	40.93	+3.50	2010	+90
Murfreesboro_5N	91	57	75	+2	0.98	2	45.15	+8.09	1868	-294
Nashville_Metro	90	61	76	+2	2.42	3	45.56	+12.23	2035	-22
Newcomb	86	55	72	+3	2.82	4	51.21	+12.61	1508	+244
Oneida	87	56	73	+4	5.17	4	46.88	+8.28	1486	-362
Pikeville	89	57	75	+2	1.32	3	50.81	+13.50	1825	+122
Portland_TN	89	57	74	+2	2.45	3	43.67	+7.53	1751	+44
Pulaski_Water_P	93	59	76	+2	1.49	3	45.20	+7.16	1870	-181
Savannah_6SW	91	55	75	-1	1.52	4	54.15	+14.93	1846	+34
Sparta_TN	91	56	75	+3	2.96	3	52.44	+13.96	1853	+378
Springfield	90	57	74	+2	1.96	2	38.55	+3.92	1772	+57
Springhill	94	58	76	+4	2.16	2	47.05	+8.84	1950	+205
Union_City	90	55	73	+1	2.34	4	39.74	+4.08	1871	-37
Waynesboro_TN	89	55	75	+3	3.14	4	49.16	+9.02	1776	-200

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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